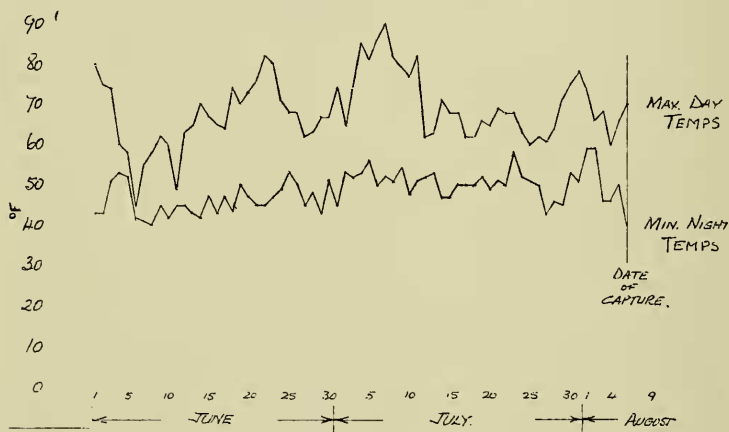


in greater quantity on the south-eastern seaboard than ever before, mainly in November with some records of it even in December. Well over a hundred were also reported from Southern Eire, chiefly in Co. Cork. About a similar number were noted along the coast of Hampshire, Sussex and Kent, with a few records in the Eastern Counties. The final members of this migration wave were a few *Hippotion celerio* L., about the middle of November. It was on the whole a good autumn too for the usual resident species among which *Gripesia aprilina* L. was in especial plenty, while *Lithophane leautieri* Boisd extended its range to East Kent.

After a poor start with hardly any migrants and a general paucity of insects and a late season, the second half of 1978 saw a distinct general improvement in numbers of lepidoptera, while the big autumn migration was a notable feature in a somewhat lean year.

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AN UNUSUAL ABERRATION OF THE SMALL TORTOISESHELL IN SCOTLAND. — I caught an aberration of *Aglais urticae* L. on valerian in my garden at this address on the 6th August 1977. Its wing span is 49 mm. and it is similar to ab. *semiichnusoides* Pronin, illustrated in Russwurm's *Aberrations of British Butterflies* (1978) plate 18, fig. 1.



Aberrations of this butterfly seem to be extremely rare in Scotland and if, as is thought, a factor in their appearance is temperature, then it is interesting to note on the temperature chart figured that on 7th July 1977 the temperature in my garden rose to 90 degrees F, an unusually high temperature for this part of the country. At what stage in its life cycle this temperature occurred is difficult to assess, but *urticae* normally emerges here from the middle of July onwards. — J. R. MILLER, Sealladh-mhor Crieff, Perthshire, PH7 4AD.